

WATERSHED RESTORATION ACTION STRATEGIES SOUTH CAROLINA

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INTRODUCTION

The Clean Water Action Plan (Plan) was released in February 1998 by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), and other federal agencies. That document outlines a plan to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the nation's water resources. A central element of the *Plan* is a set of actions that are designed to promote a renewed focus by state, federal, tribal, and local governments on (1) identifying watersheds that have critical water quality concerns and (2) working together to focus resources and implement Watershed Restoration Action Strategies (WRAS) to solve these problems.

In order to achieve this renewed focus on watersheds of particular concern, the *Plan* called upon states to look at all watersheds within their boundaries and determine whether they (1) meet clean water and other natural resource goals and support healthy aquatic systems or (2) are in need of restoration because the waters within them do not meet, or face imminent threat of not meeting, clean water and other natural resource goals. This assessment process is known as the Unified Watershed Assessment (UWA). In addition, states were asked to select priority watersheds for fiscal years 1999 and 2000. Federal guidance required the assessment and selection of priorities to be done at the 8-digit hydrologic unit level. The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) worked with other state and federal stakeholders to complete a Unified Watershed Assessment for South Carolina and to select five watersheds as restoration priorities for FY 1999 and 2000. A similar stakeholder group selected three additional watersheds for FY2001 and 2002. The priority watersheds for FY2001-2002 are (see also map next page):

03040201	Pee Dee
03040202	Lynches
03040206	Waccamaw
03050103	Catawba
03050109	Saluda
03050202	SC Coastal
03050206	Four Hole Swamp
03060101	Seneca-Keowee

The Plan calls for states to develop WRAS for priority watersheds in cooperation with federal and local agencies, watershed-based organizations, and the public. The Plan provides that new resources be targeted to restoration of priority watersheds, directed to those activities identified in the WRAS.



COORDINATION

A meeting of federal and state agency and organization stakeholders to discuss South Carolina's updated UWA was held on January 13, 2000, in conjunction with a meeting of the state Nonpoint Source Task Force.

Participating Stakeholders:

USDA Forest Service
 Grazing Lands Coalition
 SC Forestry Association
 SC Department of Agriculture
 SC Wildlife Federation
 Lake & Watershed Association of SC
 Clemson University Extension Service
 SC DHEC - Office of Ocean & Coastal Resource Management
 SC Farm Bureau
 Sierra Club, SC Chapter
 SC Department of Transportation
 SC Sea Grant Consortium
 SC Association of Conservation Districts
 SC Forestry Commission
 SC DHEC - Bureau of Water
 US Fish & Wildlife Service

US Army Corps of Engineers
SC Department of Natural Resources
SC Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism
USDA Farm Service Agency
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
US Geological Survey
Water Environment Association of SC
SC Coastal Conservation League
SC State University

To allow further opportunity for public review, the WRAS is posted on the SC DHEC web site at: <http://www.state.sc.us/dhec/eqc/water>.

In September 1998 and again in April 1999, SC DHEC developed and distributed guidance for use of the incremental FY 1999 and 2000 319 funds allocated to states in support of WRAS implementation. These guidance documents and the projects funded through this program constitute critical steps in the implementation of WRAS in priority watersheds. Nearly 500 of each of the guidance packets were distributed. Stakeholders who participated in UWA development also received copies of the guidance, and several submitted proposals for funding. A total of 49 proposals were received for 1999; 12 were selected for funding by a 10-member, multi-agency review committee. For FY2000, 24 proposals were submitted, and 13 were selected for funding.

Continuous agency and public involvement in WRAS implementation is promoted and facilitated by SC DHEC's four watershed managers. These individuals, each responsible for two major river basins, are trained in water quality data evaluation and geographic information systems (GIS), and serve as liaisons with stakeholders. They produce South Carolina's 303(d) list of impaired waters, develop nonpoint source TMDLs, and coordinate WRAS implementation.

MONITORING

South Carolina DHEC operates a permanent statewide network of over 500 ambient water quality and biological monitoring sites. Progress toward achieving water quality and natural resource goals is assessed through analysis of data collected via this extensive network.

Five projects selected for incremental FY 1999 319 funding, and two selected for FY2000, will provide important additional information on sources of water quality problems in priority watersheds. Two of these projects will result in NPS total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). Another will employ new laboratory techniques to differentiate among sources of fecal coliform bacteria (e.g., human, domesticated animals, wild animals). The other monitoring projects aim to identify sources of fecal coliform bacteria, nutrients, and heavy metals, and evaluate NPS impacts

on macroinvertebrate communities. All of these evaluations include concise goals and specific milestones, and will contribute directly toward watershed restoration action strategy implementation within their respective watersheds. See the Actions section for descriptions of these and other projects targeted for incremental funding.

WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS

According to the UWA, Category I watersheds show nonattainment of clean water or other natural resource goals in more than 20% of the assessed waters of the watershed. South Carolina's priority watersheds were among those classified as Category I. Water quality impairments in each of the priority watersheds are listed in the following sections. Water quality impairment statewide is reassessed every two years as part of 303(d) list development.

Pee Dee Watershed (03040201)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03040201-100	Skipper Creek upstream of SC 145	Chesterfield	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040201-110	Snake Branch in Hartsville	Darlington	fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen, low pH
03040201-110	Ditch across from Darlington STP	Darlington	fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03040201-110	Black Creek at Highway 15 Bypass	Darlington	fecal coliform bacteria
03040201-120	Pee Dee River upstream of U.S. 301/SC 76	Dillon, Marlboro	chromium
03040201-130	Willow Creek upstream of S-21-57	Florence	low dissolved oxygen, low pH
03040201-130	Willow Creek at SC-327	Florence	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040201-130	Gulley Branch at Timrod Park	Florence	fecal coliform bacteria
03040201-130	Jefferies Creek upstream of S-16-13	Florence	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040201-130	Middle Swamp upstream of S-5, Southeast of Florence	Florence	fecal coliform bacteria

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03040201-140	Pee Dee River upstream of US 378	Marion, Florence	copper
03040201-150	Smith Swamp upstream of US 501	Marion	copper, low dissolved oxygen

Lynches Watershed (03040202)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03040202-030	North Branch of Wildcat Creek upstream of S-29-39	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-040	Flat Creek upstream of S-29-123	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-050	Fork Creek upstream of S-13-770	Chesterfield	fecal coliform bacteria, copper, impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040202-050	Little Fork Creek Upstream of S-13-265 1.5	Chesterfield	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040202-070	Hanging Rock Creek and its Tributaries upstream of S-29-84	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-070	Horton Creek upstream of S-29-95	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-070	Little Lynches River upstream of S-28-42	Kershaw	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-070	Todd's Branch Ne of Kershaw	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-090	Cousar Branch below Bishopville Finishing Co.	Lee	fecal coliform bacteria
03040202-130	Cypress Branch at S-21-164	Florence	impaired macroinvertebrate community

Waccamaw Watershed (03040206)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03040206-120	Bear Swamp upstream from S-26-110	Horry	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03040206-120	Intracoastal Waterway upstream from conjunction with the Waccamaw River	Horry	fecal coliform bacteria, low pH
03040206-140	Intracoastal Waterway	Horry	fecal coliform bacteria, low pH

Catawba Watershed (03050103)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050103-010	Catawba River from Great Falls dam to junction with Rocky Creek	Chester, Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03050103-020	McAlpine and Sugar Creeks upstream of confluence	Lancaster	impaired macroinvertebrate community, fecal coliform bacteria
03050103-020	Sugar Creek upstream of SC highway 160	Lancaster	chromium, copper
03050103-020	Sugar Creek	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria
03050103-020	Steele Creek at US 21 Bi Pass	Lancaster	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-030	Six Mile Creek upstream of s-29-54	Lancaster	zinc
03050103-040	Rum Creek and tributaries	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050103-040	Bear Creek and tributaries, including Gills Creek	Lancaster	low dissolved oxygen
03050103-040	Cane Creek upstream of City of Lancaster	Lancaster	low dissolved oxygen

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050103-040	Cane Ck through the Town of Lancaster	Lancaster	fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen, and impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-050	Fishing Creek at s-46-347	York	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-070	Neelys Creek	York	fecal coliform bacteria
03050103-070	Tinkers Creek at s-12-599	Chester	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-090	Beaver Dam Creek	Chester	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-090	Rocky Creek at s-12-335	Chester	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050103-090	Grassy Run Branch	Chester	low dissolved oxygen

Saluda Watershed (03050109)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050109-020	Lower parts of Middle Saluda and South Saluda Watersheds	Pickens Greenville	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-040	Saluda River above SC 183	Greenville	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-040	Mill Creek at Bent Bridge Road	Greenville	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-040	Tributary of Saluda River just below Hurricane Creek.	Greenville	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-090	Tributary to Broad Mouth Creek	Anderson	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050109-090	Broad Mouth Creek	Anderson	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-100	Big Brushy Creek at S-04-52	Anderson	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-140	Coronaca Creek	Greenwood	low dissolved oxygen

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050109-150	Bush River and tributaries above S.C. Route 34 bridge up to and including Shell Creek and headwater areas.	Newberry	phosphorus
03050109-150	Scotts Creek, a tributary to Bush River south west of Newberry.	Newberry	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-160-163	Newberry County portion of Little River including Garrison Creek Watershed. Laurens County portion up to and including Town of Laurens.	Newberry, Laurens	fecal coliform bacteria
03050109-190	Lake Murray at Marker #63	Lexington	phosphorus
03050109-210	Saluda River from Lake Murray Dam to the confluence with the Broad River	Lexington	low dissolved oxygen

South Carolina Coastal Watershed (03050202)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050202-010	Wassamassaw Swamp at US 176	Berkeley	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-010	Cypress Swamp at US 78	Dorchester	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-020	Ashley River at SC 165 , 4.8 miles SSW of Summerville	Dorchester	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-030	Sawmill Branch at SC 78 E of Summerville	Dorchester	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-030	Dorchester Creek at SC 165	Dorchester	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050202-030	Eagle Creek at SC 642, 5 miles SSE of Summerville	Dorchester	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-040	Ashley River at Magnolia Gardens	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen, copper

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050202-040	Church Creek	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050202-040	Ashley River at the Salrr Bridge	Charleston	Low dissolved oxygen
03050202-050	Log Bridge Creek at SC 162	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-050	Stono River at S-10-20, 2 miles Upstream of Clemson Experimental Station	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050202-050	Mouth of Elliott Cut at the Edge Water Drive (S-10-26 off Hwy 17)	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050202-060	Awendaw Creek at US 17	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-060	Jeremy Creek	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria
03050202-070	Shem Creek at the Bridge on US 17	Charleston	Fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
03050202-070	Stono River at Abbapoola Creek	Charleston	Low dissolved oxygen
03050202-070	Stono River at SC 700	Charleston	Low dissolved oxygen
3050202	AIWW - Hamlin Creek to Sta 18, Lower Hamlin Creek from AIWW to Long Island Marina closure zone	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	AIWW - Jeremy Creek to Venning Creek, including Awendaw, Tibwin, & Doehaul Creeks	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	AIWW from Ben Sawyer to Conch Creek, incl. marsh and tributaries SE of AIWW to Sullivans Island	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Bass and Cinder Creeks	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Captain Sam's Creek at Kiawah River headwaters	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Elliott Cut	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050202	Hamlin, Swinton, and Conch Creeks NW of the AIWW, middle reaches to mainland , excluding upper and middle reaches of Inlet	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Headwaters of Inlet Creek	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Headwaters of Lighthouse, Schooner, & Folly Creeks at Clark Sound	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Inlet Creek. - middle reaches	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Isle of Palms marsh area adjacent to Wild Dunes	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Rathall Creek- within 1000' of Sta 10A-30	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Schooner Creek and tributaries between Station 10-18A and Station 10A-19	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Stono River Estuary between AIWW Markers 27 & 63	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Stono River Estuary from Hwy 700 (Sta 11-02) to Sta 11-03	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria
03050202	Sullivans Island beach pond	Charleston	fecal coliform bacteria

Four Hole Swamp Watershed (03050206)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050206-010	Gramling Creek and tributaries through the City of Orangeburg	Orangeburg	fecal coliform bacteria
03050206-010	Gramling Creek at confluence with Bull Swamp	Orangeburg	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050206-010	Little Bull Creek and tributaries	Orangeburg	impaired macroinvertebrate community, fecal coliform bacteria, low dissolved oxygen

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03050206-010	Bull Swamp at SR 154	Orangeburg	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03050206-010	Four Hole Swamp and tributaries	Orangeburg, Calhoun	fecal coliform bacteria, zinc, copper
03050206-040	Four Hole Swamp and tributaries from confluence of Castle Creek to Home Branch	Orangeburg, Dorchester	low dissolved oxygen
03050206-050	Horse Range Swamp and tributaries	Orangeburg	fecal coliform bacteria
03050206-060	Dean Swamp and tributaries	Orangeburg, Berkeley	fecal coliform bacteria
03050206-070	Four Hole Swamp upstream of US Highway 78	Dorchester	fecal coliform bacteria

Seneca/Keowee Watershed (03060101)

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03060101-020	Lake Jocassee, area near confluence of Thompson and Whitewater Rivers and area near confluence of Toxaway, Horsepasture, and Laurel Fork Creeks	Oconee, Pickens	copper, zinc
03060101-060	North Fork Twelve Mile Creek and tributaries upstream of US 178	Pickens	fecal coliform bacteria
03060101-070	Unnamed tributary to Twelve Mile Creek (see map)	Pickens	fecal coliform bacteria
03060101-070	Segment of Golden Creek and tributaries from Golden Creek Road to S-39-222	Pickens	impaired macroinvertebrate community
03060101-090	Woodside Branch	Pickens	fecal coliform bacteria
03060101-090	Headwaters of Eighteen Mile Creek	Pickens	fecal coliform bacteria

HYDROLOGIC UNIT	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY	CAUSE OF IMPAIRMENT
03060101-100	Three and Twenty Creek and tributaries	Pickens, Anderson	impaired macroinvertebrate community, fecal coliform bacteria

ACTIONS

Listed below are general strategies for assessment and implementation activities in priority watersheds. This list is not exhaustive; other types of projects will be considered. In addition, implementation of approved nonpoint source Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in any Category I watershed will be given high priority for 319 funding.

Planning and Assessment

- Develop TMDLs for waterbodies within priority watersheds.
- Work with local officials, planners, and other key stakeholders to develop comprehensive watershed management plans and implementation strategies (e.g., workshops, education campaigns, restoration projects, zoning changes, or local stream corridor protection ordinances).
- Design and implement monitoring projects to identify specific pollutant sources, fate, and transport. Develop specific recommendations for reducing inputs from identified sources.
- Develop GIS layers for a watershed, including specific land uses and locations of pollutant sources.

Developing Areas

- Develop and implement informational and technical assistance strategies to educate local officials on how land use policies impact watershed health and water quality.
- Hold workshops for local elected officials, planners, and other interested parties on planned development and “green growth” strategies to deal with urban sprawl. Topics to include: the advantages and application of environmentally friendly zoning, stormwater treatment through created wetlands and other bioretention mechanisms, retention and restoration of wetlands and riparian forests, how local regulations are used in other parts of the country, and tools that are available to assist local entities in reducing the adverse impacts of rapid growth on existing natural resources.
- Design and implement programs (workshops/ field days) for developers and contractors promoting reduction of impervious surface areas, bioretention, alternative materials, retention and restoration of forested riparian buffers, and other conservation-oriented

design and development practices. The programs may be sponsored or presented by developers or contractors familiar with these practices.

- Develop and distribute educational brochures on innovative site planning and BMPs for new development.
- Construct public parks similar to Hopeland Gardens (Aiken) for stormwater treatment and flood control.
- Construct wetlands for urban runoff treatment.

Developed Areas

- Retrofit large impervious areas, such as parking lots, with bioretention systems for stormwater treatment.
- Implement education/outreach programs emphasizing awareness of runoff pollution from urban/suburban areas and the overall effect on the watershed, perhaps a "know your watershed address" program or Water Watch activity. Write television, radio, local media releases on runoff pollution and how individuals can reduce it. Work simultaneously in schools to promote NPS awareness.

Agricultural Areas

- Install livestock access management practices (fence cattle out of streams, establish stream crossings, develop alternative watering sources, etc.).
- Install riparian forest buffers as a best management practice adjacent to fields and pastures.
- Construct wetlands for treatment of runoff from animal operations.

All Land Uses

- Implement TMDLs.
- Restore forested riparian (streamside/lakeside) buffers.
- Undertake stream restoration projects that include restoration of in-stream habitat, streambank stabilization, and riparian forest restoration.
- Develop education/outreach programs intended to encourage private land owners to establish forested riparian buffers.

Current Projects

Many of the above activities are already being implemented in priority watersheds. Twelve such projects were funded with FY1999 Incremental 319 funds. The following 13 were selected for FY2000 319 Incremental funding:

1. *Assessment and TMDL Development for Fecal Coliform in Thompson Creek Watershed*
Lead organization: Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Council
Develop source assessment of fecal coliform bacteria runoff contributions.

Establish a relationship between instream water quality targets and source loadings.
Develop allocation of nonpoint fecal coliform bacteria loads into Thompson Creek.

2. *Fecal Coliform Bacteria and Phosphorus Assessment and Best Management Practice Implementation for Selected Catawba Basin Streams in Lancaster County*
Lead organization: Lancaster Conservation District
Collect data to prioritize stream reaches for mitigation measures.
Expand local awareness of importance of nonpoint source pollution mitigation.
Administer a local grant program for BMP installation.
3. *BMPs to Reduce Fecal Coliform in Coneross / Seneca River Watersheds*
Lead organization: Oconee Soil and Water Conservation District
Implement prescribed grazing systems and improved waste management.
Distribute quarterly newsletter on prescribed grazing systems.
Lead a field tour of participating farms.
4. *Identification and Mitigation of NPS Fecal Coliform Pollution in the Rocky Creek Watershed*
Lead organization: Research Planning, Inc.
Design and install BMPs in the watershed.
Collect water samples before and after BMP installation.
Increase community and public awareness of water quality problems and solutions.
5. *Identification and Mitigation of NPS Fecal Coliform Pollution in the Little Saluda River Watershed*
Lead organization: Research Planning, Inc.
Design and install BMPs in the watershed.
Collect water samples before and after BMP installation.
Increase community and public awareness of water quality problems and solutions.
6. *Fertilizer and Moisture Absorption in Lancaster County's Catawba Basin*
Lead organization: Lancaster Conservation District
Increase use of soil aeration to reduce runoff of fertilizer and fecal coliform bacteria.
Perform before and after hay, soil, and yield monitoring.
Hold field day and provide information to media and cooperating agencies.
7. *Bush River Soil Monitoring Project*
Lead organization: Newberry Soil and Water Conservation District
Develop soil monitoring and fertilizer management program.
Reduce overapplication of nutrients.
Develop nutrient management plans for producers.
8. *Constructed Wetlands for Failing Septic Tank Systems*
Lead organization: Ninety-Six District RC&D Council, Inc.
Develop public information campaign and provide contractor training.

Install 10 constructed wetlands systems to replace failing septic tanks.
Provide data and field reports to evaluate project effectiveness.

9. *Implementation of a Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials Program*

Lead organization: SC Sea Grant Consortium

Educate local elected and other public officials about NPS pollution.

Offer technical assistance for developing community-based strategies.

Track and survey participants to assess impact on knowledge and awareness.

10. *GIS/GPS Identification of Nonpoint Pollution Sources and Public Awareness Program*

Lead organization: Catawba Regional Council of Governments

Locate potential NPS sites related to agriculture and septic tanks.

Provide GPS locations and GIS mapping of these areas.

Present information to development and planning communities.

11. *Riparian Forest Buffer Siting within York County Impaired Watersheds*

Lead organization: Lake Wylie River and Cove Keepers

Compile information on land use, hydrology, topography, and geology.

Identify areas of high fecal coliform bacteria loading.

Promote conversion of agricultural land to CRP riparian forest buffers.

12. *Development of a Riparian Area Management Handbook for Agricultural and Forestry Lands*

Lead organization: Clemson University

Distribute a printed, CD-ROM, and web version of the handbook.

Conduct technical training sessions for state agency personnel and producers.

Develop demonstration sites on riparian area management.

13. *Copper Abatement Project*

Lead organization: City of Clemson

Install pollutant screening system to remove sediment-attached metals from stormwater entering Lake Hartwell.

Monitor to determine effectiveness and frequency of cleaning required.



SCHEDULE

The 25 Category I watersheds in South Carolina will be addressed on an appropriate time-line, taking into account the five year rotating basin schedule, in the following priority order:

Priority 1 Watersheds: FY1999-2002	03040201	Pee Dee
	03040206	Waccamaw
	03050103	Catawba
	03050109	Saluda
	03060101	Seneca - Keowee
Priority 2 Watersheds: FY2001-2002	03040202	Lynches
	03050202	South Carolina Coastal
	03050206	Four Hole Swamp
Priority 2 Watersheds:	03050108	Enoree
	03040205	Black
	03050105	Upper Broad
	03050208	Broad - St. Helena
	03060103	Upper Savannah
Priority 3 Watersheds:	03040207	Coastal Carolina - Sampit
	03050101	Lake Wylie
	03050104	Wateree
	03050106	Lower Broad
	03050107	Tyger
	03050111	Lake Marion
	03050201	Cooper
	03050205	Edisto
	03050207	Salkehatchie
	03060106	Middle Savannah
	03060107	Stevens
	03060109	Lower Savannah

As the criteria used to determine priority order (e.g. water quality, land use, land management practices, etc.) are not static, but are continually changing, South Carolina reserves the right to revisit these priority rankings and schedule, and to revise them as needed.

Restoration measures will be implemented and maintained by stakeholder organizations, and monitored and evaluated by the funding agencies.

FUNDING NEEDS

To support the *Clean Water Action Plan*, the President's FY99 budget proposed a 35% increase in funding for five Federal agencies. The only program to actually receive additional funds in support of the Plan was EPA's Section 319 polluted runoff control grants. **We support full funding of the Clean Water and Watershed Restoration Budget Initiative for all agencies.**

In addition, 319 funding for South Carolina should be increased further. South Carolina received proposals totaling \$5.8 million in FY1999, and over \$2.6 million in FY2000, for activities in priority watersheds using the incremental funding. Only \$1.5 million were available each year. Additional funding would also support more expeditious nonpoint source TMDL development and implementation.

Finally, it is critical that 106 funding for monitoring be maintained or increased to insure proper assessment and reporting of water quality improvements resulting from implementation of these strategies.

For more information on South Carolina's Watershed Restoration Action Strategies, contact Kathy Stecker, SCDHEC, at 803-898-4011.

